

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STOCKH 03216 251028Z

17

ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 DPW-01 ACDA-19

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 OIC-04 AF-10

ARA-16 NEA-14 MC-02 DRC-01 /193 W

----- 116700

R 250840Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2487

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

US DEL JEC PARIS 1792

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

USUN NEW YORK 629

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 3216

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM PFOR ICRC VN VS SW

SUBJ: ICRC CONFERENCE ON WEAPONS

REF: (A) STATE 145886 (B) STCOKHOLM 2464

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH DEPARTMENT INSTRUCTIONS (REF A),
POLITICAL COUNSELOR CONTACTED MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
LEGAL ADVISOR HANS BLIX TO DISCUSS SWEDISH REPLY TO ICRC
REGARDING QUESTION OF PRG INVITATION TO ICRC CONFERENCE OF
GOVERNMENT EXPERTS ON WEAPONS. MEETING WAS FOLLOW-UP TO
INITIAL DXACHE#LAST MONTH (STOCKHOLM 2464).

2. BLIX SAID SWEDEN HAD TODAY (JULY 24) SIGNED OFF ON
ANSWER TO ICRC, WHICH HE CHARACTERIZED AS SOMETHING TO
ABSTENTION ON PRG INVITATION, SINCE IT STATES THAT SWEDEN
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PAGE 02 STOCKH 03216 251028Z

CONSIDERS ITSELF BOUND BY LAST SPRING'S DIPLOMATIC CONFER-

ENCE IN GENEVA. HOWEVER, POSITION OF ABSTENTION IS MADE SOMEWHAT AMBIGUOUS BY ADDITIONAL STATEMENT INCLUDED IN REPLY THAT SWEDEN WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO PARTICIPATION OF PRG SHOULD THAT BE DECIDED BY CONFERENCE.

3. WHEN POLITICAL COUNSELOR NOTED AMBIGUITY OF SWEDISH REPLY, BLIX INSISTED THAT SWEDISH POSITION OF ABSTENTION ON PRG INVITATION IS CLEAR, AND THAT IN EFFORT TO AVOID ANY MISUNDERSTANDING ON SWEDISH STANCE, HE HAD TELEPHONED ICRC OFFICIAL IN GENEVA TO EMPHASIZE THIS POINT. ACCORDING TO BLIX, OFFICIAL HAD REPLIED THAT REPLIES TO MAIL TALLY RECEIVED TO DATE INDICATE THAT PRG WILL NOT RPT NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT VOTES TO BE INVITED TO CONFERENCE.

4. BLIX AGAIN REFERRED TO "FALL BACK" POSITION THAT MIGHT BE ADOPTED IN EVENT THAT PRG INVITATION PROPOSAL HAD CARRIED; THIS WOULD ENTAIL INVITING PRG TO CONFERENCE NOT AS SOVEREIGN GOVERNMENT BUT AS "LIBERATION MOVEMENT." HOWEVER, IN VIEW LIKELIHOOD THAT INVITATION PROPOSAL WOULD NOT CARRY, THIS "COMPROMISE FORMULA" (TO WHICH EMBASSY OFFICER CITED USG OBJECTIONS) COULD PRESUMABLY NOW BE SHELVED.

5. COMMENT: IT WAS CLEAR FROM BLIX'S COMMENTS THAT, AS NOTED IN REF B, ARGUMENT WHICH CARRIED MOST WEIGHT WITH SWEDES AND CLINCHED DECISION TO ABSTAIN ON PRG INVITATION QUESTION, WAS POSSIBILITY OF USG WITHDRAWAL FROM ICRC CONFERENCE.

STRAUSZ-HUPE

NOTE BY OC/T: #AS RECEIVED.

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